Advanced Tactical Parachute System (ATPS)

The Advanced Tactical Parachute System (ATPS) is the next generation personnel parachute system. It will provide the airborne Soldier with the first wholesale modernization of the tactical parachute system since the 1950s. The ATPS includes a completely redesigned main and reserve parachute and an integrated harness system and is suitable for the 5th percentile female to the 95th percentile male Soldier.

The main canopy is a highly modified version of a cross/cruciform platform and has an increased inflated diameter of 14 percent, and a 28 percent increase in surface area when compared to the T-10D assembly. The reserve canopy is a proven derivative of the aero-conical design that includes apex scoop pockets at the top of the reserve canopy and skirt assist lines at the system's hem to promote fast opening of the reserve system during low speed malfunctions. Unlike our current reserve parachute system, the ATPS reserve is an omni-directional, center-pull deployment system. The ATPS harness, due to higher placement of the D-rings, is designed to displace opening shock forces of the reserve parachute equally along the long axis of the jumper's body. Additionally, the ATPS main canopy utilizes a slider to reduce the opening shock and control the opening of the canopy contributing to the dramatic reduction in canopy oscillation. The ATPS is designed to have an average rate of descent 18 percent slower than the T-10D resulting in lower landing injury rates for jumpers.

System Description

Component Materials: The ATPS main and reserve canopies are made of 1.1 oz. low-porosity ripstop nylon, with Teflon coated suspension lines. The main container is made of Cordura, an abrasion and water resistant fabric. The harness is made of Type 7 webbing.

Color: Foliage Green - 504

Weight:
System: 52.7 lbs, Main parachute: 38 lbs, Reserve Assembly: 14.7 lbs

Size: Main canopy is 30.6 inflated diameter at the hem, reserve canopy is 24' nominal diameter.

Status: ATPS Developmental Test (DT) live jumping began in October 2005 to determine reliability in preparation to enter Operational Testing. A total of 229 successful live jumps without a system failure is required. Canopy Release Assembly is being modified per the request of the Commander, 18th ABN Corps.Operational Testing (OT): Live jumps are scheduled to begin in January 2007 at Ft. Bragg to fully validate ATPS performance in the operational environment. A total of 3,289 live jumps without failure are required to complete OT.
The T11 will be an Army common item, Type Classified Standard Sustainable System (Class VII).